

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 OES-07
FEA-01 /086 W
-----065614 210208Z /62

R 210145Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2915
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, ID, JA
SUBJECT: JAPANESE ATTITUDES TO LOMBOK CTS

REF: JAKARTA 14831

1. OUR IMPRESSION HERE IS THAT GOJ CONSIDERS LOMBOK CTS PROJECT AS A LOW PRIORITY ITEM, AND THUS NOT LIKELY TO GENERATE MUCH POLITICAL INTEREST, PARTICULARLY IF THE INDONESIANS DON'T WANT IT. OUR INFORMATION INDICATES THAT PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA TOLD PRESIDENT SUHARTO THAT JAPAN WOULD HELP IN BUILDING THE CTS ONLY IF THE SAUDIS JOINED IN WITH OIL AND MONEY. SINCE THIS APPARENTLY WILL NOT BE THE CASE, WE DONT SEE THE GOJ PUSHING IT AT THIS TIME.

2. WHAT INTEREST THERE IS IS BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY
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IN LOMBOK (AS WELL AS IN PALAU - ANOTHER CTS PROJECT IN WHICH GOJ INTEREST IS SIMILARLY LOW) OF SITES FOR STOCKPILING OIL. SITES ARE DIFFICULT TO FIND IN JAPAN, FOR BOTH GEOGRAPHICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS. BUT THE GOJ IS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF DECIDING HOW MUCH OIL IT WISHES TO STOCKPILE IN ADDITION TO THE IEA 90 DAY REQUIREMENT. IT IS ALSO ACTIVELY SEARCHING

FOR SITES IN JAPAN, WHERE IT MUCH PREFERS TO HOLD
THE STOCKS, IN THE EVENT IT IS DECIDED TO GO FOR A
HIGHER LEVEL.

3. THE PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN IS ALSO LESS
THAN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PROJECT, BUT MAINLY FOR
ECONOMIC REASONS. IT MADE THE INTERESTING POINT THAT
THE CTS IDEA WAS INITIALLY FAVORED BY JAPANESE
TRADING COMPANIES BECAUSE IT WOULD ALLOW VLCC/ULCC
TANKERS TO COME AT LEAST PART OF THE WAY, EVEN THOUGH
BERTHING FACILITIES ARE INSUFFICIENT IN JAPAN ITSELF
FOR FREQUENT DOCKINGS OF SUCH LARGE VESSELS. BUT
WITH THE INCREASE IN TANKER RATES FOLLOWING THE
1973 EMBARGO, THE IDEA LOST ITS ECONOMIC ATTRACTIVENESS.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO17904
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770430-0979
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771133/aaaabcey.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 23a1b114-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 JAKARTA 14831
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 501740
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE ATTITUDES TO LOMBOK CTS
TAGS: ENRG, ID, JA
To: JAKARTA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/23a1b114-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009